

Argumentative Writing Rubric

<u>Category</u>	<u>Above standard</u>	<u>Meets standard</u>	<u>Approaching standard</u>	<u>Below standard</u>
Thesis statement	Thesis statement provides a clear, strong statement of the author's position on the topic	Thesis statement provides a clear statement of the author's position on the topic	Thesis statement is present, but does not make the author's position clear	There is no thesis statement
Support for position	Includes at least three pieces of evidence (examples, statistics, anecdotes, textual evidence) that clearly and strongly support the thesis statement	Includes at least three pieces of evidence (examples, statistics, anecdotes, textual evidence) that support the thesis statement	Includes at least two pieces of evidence (examples, statistics, anecdotes, textual evidence) that attempt to support the thesis statement	Includes one or no pieces of evidence (examples, statistics, anecdotes, textual evidence) that may or may not support the thesis statement
Transitions	A variety of thoughtful transitions are used to show how ideas are connected	Transitions show how ideas are connected, but there is little variety	Some transitions show how ideas are connected, but some connections between ideas are unclear	The transitions between ideas are unclear or non-existent
Closing Paragraph	The conclusion is strong and leaves the reader solidly understanding the author's position and the main points of the essay	The conclusion leaves the reader with an understanding of the author's position and the main points of the essay	The conclusion attempts to leave the reader with an understanding of the author's position and the main points of the essay, but these are not clear	There is no conclusion or it does not leave the reader with any clear understandings of the writer's position or the main points